MUTINY

A PAPER OF ANARCHISTIC IDEAS & ACTIONS

ISSUE 32

NOVEMBER 2008

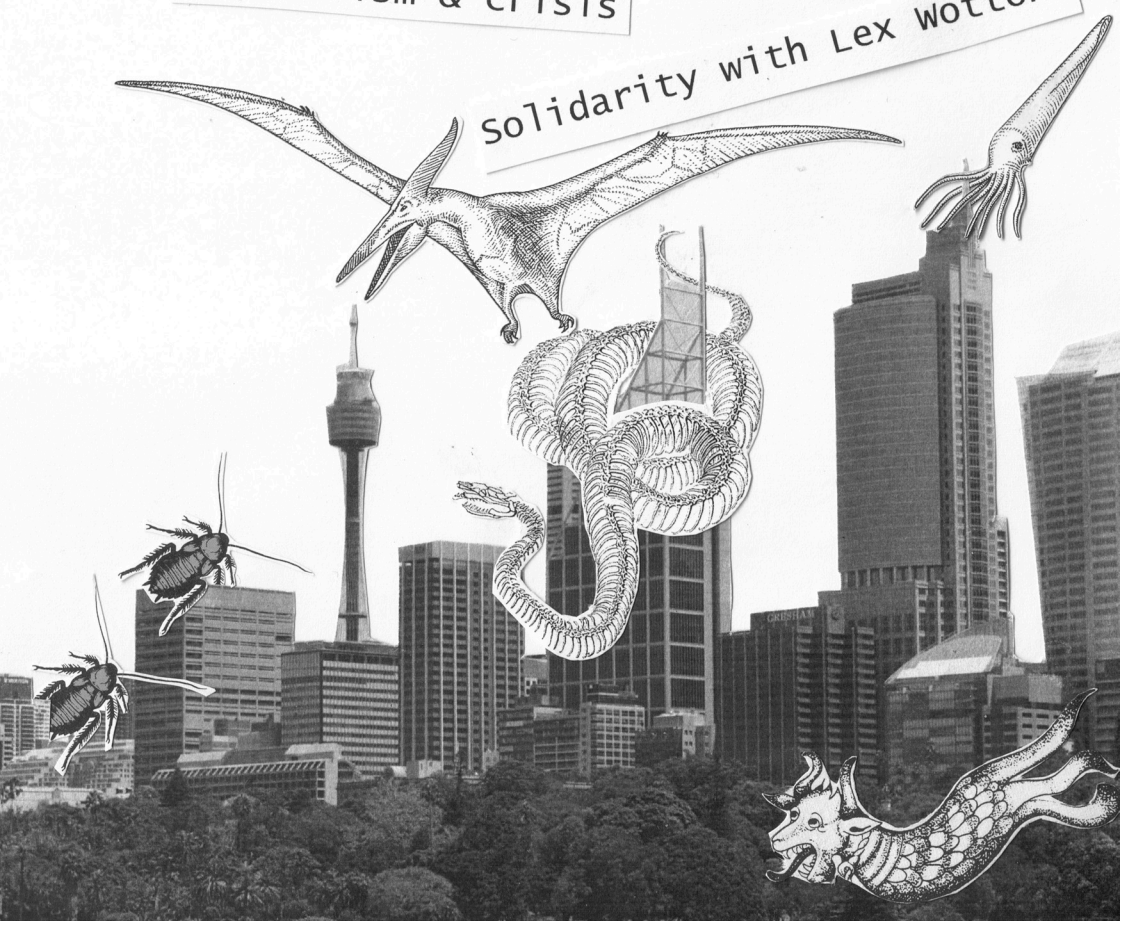
FREE

Police infiltration

Reclaim the night?

Capitalism & crisis

Solidarity with Lex Wotton



Mutiny is an anarchist collective based in Sydney. We started this zine to explore different avenues of disobedience & resistance, & to encourage people to write about their ideas, actions & experiences.

Mutiny began as an anti-war collective. We're currently exploring ways to resist gentrification, in particular the 'redevelopment' proposed in the Redfern area by the Redfern Waterloo Authority. We're keen to work with other people opposed to this redevelopment & the displacement, racism, rent hikes & ugliness it involves. We meet regularly: please contact us on the address below.

Editors this month: Marshall Cinque, Mambutu, Max Solidarity, SourDough, Graf Cat, Princess Mob, Dumpstered Twin

c/- PO Box 4, Enmore, NSW, 2042, Australia
mutineers@graffiti.net

Back issues at **www.jura.org.au/mutiny** - more coming soon.

(The mutiny zine collective does not necessarily agree with all the opinions of contributors. Contributors do not necessarily agree with all the opinions of the mutiny collective. The mutiny collective doesn't agree with all the opinions of the mutiny collective.)

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Brief News

Asuncion, Paraguay

Hundreds of campesinos and activists demonstrated in front of the Prosecutor Office building to demand reforms in judicial power and agrarian structure. At least 14 police and 50 protesters were injured after clashes broke out when police tried to prevent protesters from entering the building.

It is part of an ongoing struggle in Paraguay against the growth of genetically modified soy monocultures in the countryside. A wave of paramilitary violence has been unleashed upon those struggling against the expansion of GM soy, with murders of peasant leaders, unlawful arrests and detentions.

See: http://www.mediaisland.org/en/solidarity-paraguayan-farmers-attacked-soja-paramilitaries

New Zealand - Update on the Operation 8 Terror Raids

Crown prosecutors have re-instated all charges against 18 people arrested in the raids of October 15th, 2007 despite these charges having been dismissed outright by a judge during a recent month long depositions hearing. The charges had been dismissed outright due to a lack of evidence.

The prosecution has also added charges for 5 of the 18 with participation in a criminal gang. This seems a desperate

attempt by the government to save face after the Solicitor-General had found insufficient evidence to proceed with the terrorism related charges that were originally brought against the arrested.

Northern Territory

Police have been given new powers to enter “prescribed areas” without warrant, many police have been brought into town who have no experience dealing with local communities.

Heavy-handed behaviour by Intervention police was responsible for the death of a young man in Arnhem Land last week. NT Justice Minister Chris Burns and the Australian Police Federation have also recently criticised Intervention police for culturally insensitive behaviour.

Local residents, along with the Intervention Rollback Action Group, staged a protest outside the Alice Springs police station on Monday October 13 at 9am, before the delivery of an official complaint to the police.

Greece

On 21st of October, Greece entered a state of a general strike, which was followed by a 24 hour strike of all shop workers on the following day. The industrial action which saw all the public sector including transport closed, and a large part of the private sector in standstill. These actions have been in response to the neoliberal measures of the government and especially it's pension and social security reforms. These have brought condemnation from working people in the country since their introduction last spring. During the central protest march of the trade unions, strikers and students attacked banks and one bookshop that was operating on scab-labour, forcing them to close.

USA

On the morning after election day, a spoof newspaper resembling the USA Today and decrying capitalism were released all over the United States. In e-mails to news outlets, an anarchist group said it distributed 30,000 copies in at least 10 cities. The spoof paper's lead story announced that "2008 marks the 56th consecutive victory in the presidential elections for capitalism, which has successfully weathered crises ranging from the abolition of slavery to the Great Depression and the Summer of Love over the course of its 219-year administration."

Capitalism Wins at the Polls

Anarchy Brewing in the Streets

Japan - No Nike Park!

On the 13th October, hundreds of people marched around Miyashita Park and demanded that the park stay in public hands. Miyashita Public Park is located near Shibuya, which is one of the busiest train stations in central Tokyo. It has long been a popular venue for activists organising rallies as well as being a firm pillow for approx. 400 homeless people every night. NIKE JAPAN recently purchased the naming rights for the park from Shibuya City Council for 150 million yen. NIKE will also be spending a further 450 million yen clearing out the homeless to build a skate park and trendy cafe this plan would unquestionably deprive groups and individuals of a space for their freedom of expression, and for their daily lives. The soon to be named NIKE Park will. The campaign continues to talk to NIKE as well as city councillors and it is said that NIKE are nervous about the protests/reputation.

The Coalition to Protect Miyashita Park
from Becoming Nike Park
Email: miyashita@riseup.net

FREE LEX

by Princess Mob

Lex's in Pris'n, Hurley's Gone Fishin'

Palm Island man Lex Wotton was sentenced to six years jail after being found guilty of 'rioting with destruction' by an all-white jury in a Queensland court.

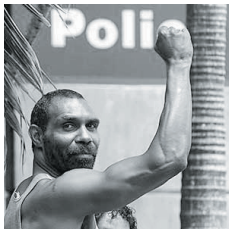
In 2004, Mulrinji Doomadgee, a 36-year-old Aboriginal man, was arrested for public nuisance by Senior Sergeant Chris Hurley. Within an hour Mulrinji was dead in a cell in the Palm Island police station with four broken ribs, a ruptured spleen and a liver almost torn in two. Another prisoner, Patrick Bramwell, told a public meeting on the island that he had seen Hurley beating Mulrinji.

A week after Mulrinji was killed, island residents heard that an autopsy had found that his death was the result of an accidental fall. They reacted by burning down the police station, court house and police residences.

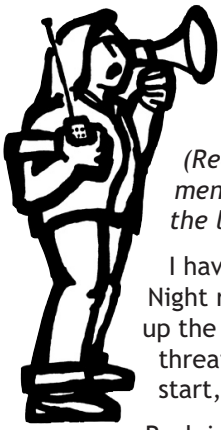
The crimes against property that were carried out in protest at Mulrinji's death were punished far more severely than the violence that killed him. The investigation into Mulrinji's death was carried out by Detective Sergeant Darren Robinson, a colleague and good friend of Hurley's, who had previously carried out insufficient 'investigations' after Hurley had injured an Aboriginal woman. In the case of Doomadgee, Hurley was found not guilty of manslaughter by an all-white jury. He was suspended on full pay while he was awaiting trial, had his legal bills paid for by the Queensland Police Union, and has since received a promotion to the Gold Coast and $100 000 compensation for property he allegedly lost when his house was burnt down. Early in the week that Lex was sentenced, the police whose negligence sparked the riot all received bravery awards.

Lex was given a non-parole period of two years – taking into account time served, he will be eligible for parole by July 2010. According to ABC News, Lex's family have said that they will not be appealing his sentence, because they were relieved that he didn't receive the harsher sentence that many had expected. The prosecution has asked that Lex be sent to jail for ten years, and the offence carry a maximum life sentence. However, the Attorney-General has announced that the prosecution will not appeal the sentence.

Solidarity actions were held around the world on the day of the sentencing and the week before. In Sydney, a speaker from the Maritime Union of Australia announced that the Sydney waterfront had shut down for a minute's silence in solidarity. A number of local Aboriginal activists spoke about the significance of Lex's trial and the ongoing struggle for justice for Aboriginal people.



It is important to remember that Chris Hurley was the first cop who has ever faced trial over an Aboriginal death in custody, even though over 200 Aboriginal people have died (or been killed) in custody since the 1990s. It was the actions of the Palm Island community, who showed they would not accept the injustice of a typical cover-up that forced this small step to be taken towards actually punishing police who kill.



RECLAIM THE NIGHT?

A REPORT FROM T WITH ALICE

(Reclaim the Night (RTN) is a "women's annual global march to protest men's sexual violence." It is held in a number of cities in Australia on the last Friady of October. This report comes from Sydney)

I have to admit to being disappointed by last Friday's Reclaim the Night rally (31st October). The combination of heavy traffic holding up the truck and sound system for the speeches at Town Hall, and the threat of rain keeping people away got the evening off to a shaky start, and it was all down hill from there.

Reclaim is not an autonomous march, which surprised me, but I think I could have dealt with that were it not for the fact that it ended up being completely deferential to men. Far from women surging onto the streets at night to reclaim them (even though arguably it's not the streets we need to Reclaim, it's women's houses and workplaces, where most violence against women occurs), we waited politely for the police to close George St and cordon the march. This wish for police to 'protect' women in both the public and private domain is a strong sentiment, or at least it seems to be what people call for, rather than calling on communities to respond to sexual and physical violence against women.

The rally ended up at Hyde Park and we settled down on the grass to listen to the speeches. There were two that really stood out for me. The first was a fantastic talk by Barbara Shaw who came down to Sydney to talk about the Intervention/ Invasion in the NT. As one of the demands for this year's RTN was to end the Intervention, and to implement the 'Little Children are Sacred' report, her talk was about those demands.

Just to counter that powerful and appropriate speech however, the speaker from the NSW Rape Crises Centre, who one would have expected to talk about the first demand of the rally, which was to support women's solutions to violence against women, instead quoted a speech by Kevin Rudd!!!! So now we're expected to rely on police and politicians for paternalistic protection? I would have thought someone from a women's service provider would be fully aware of the dangers of relying on politicians for funding said services.

The little singing group chosen to perform after the speeches seemed to be an argument against autonomous organising – just because they're women doesn't mean they have feminist politics. Their number about the girl not being good enough for the boy really said it all.

That said however, I still believe that it's important for rallies like RTN to continue to be organised, and it was great to know that this year's rally was the 30th anniversary in Australia. It was also fantastic to see the women from organisations like the Penrith Women's Refuge out and marching with their banner. Perhaps next year we can stack the organising committee and re-radicalise Reclaim the Night?

upcoming events

Jura Books 440 Parramatta Rd, Petersham

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH @ 5PM IRAQ FOR SALE: THE WAR PROFITEERS (FILM)

Sydney Anarcho-Communist Trajectory (SACT) brings you this film about what happens to everyday Americans when corporations go to war. Iraq for Sale uncovers the connections between private corporations making a killing in Iraq and the decision-makers who allow them to do so.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND @ 6PM PAOLO FINZI TALK ON ANARCHISM IN ITALY

Paolo Finzi has been a member of the editorial staff of the anarchist monthly magazine 'A' since its foundation on 1971. In his talk at Jura Books he'll speak about the situation and perspectives of the Italian anarchist movement and will discuss with the audience the international situation and the role of anarchists.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH @ 6PM DOUBLE TROUBLE BOOK LAUNCH

Iain MacIntyre is the author of two excellent new publications: Always Look on the Bright Side of Life: The AIDEX '91 Story and Lockout the Landlords: Eviction Resistance 1929-36. He will launch both books with a brief talk and a screening of news footage from the AIDEX '91 anti-arms fair protests and of Evictions a film by Richard Lowenstein about anti-eviction struggles during the Great Depression.

Black Rose Anarchist Library and Bookshop 22 Enmore Rd, Newtown

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH @ 6:30PM RACY, FAG PUNK NIGHT

Screening of live footage from Limp Wrists' show in Australia, plus the short documentary series Queercore, as well as Beyond the Screams a documentary by Los Crudos and Limp Wrist singer Martin Sorrendeguy that talks about being Latino and queer in a punk band.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH @ 3PM LAZY SUMMER SUNDAY MARKETS, FOLK AND FILM

Bring your banjo and accordion! Or leave 'em at home and come hang out at Black Rose for some dirty ole' folk and pirate tunes. Queen of Hungary's Water to play plus more... and all happening alongside the Lil' Fish markets. Also at 6:30pm screening When the Road Bends: Tales of a Gypsy Caravan, a documentary that celebrates the music of international Gypsy performers and interweaves stirring real life tales of their home life and social background.

BEYOND ECONOMIC MELTDOWN:
Further Notes on the Financial Crisis by Grumpy Cat

As I write, global capitalism appears to be either, on the verge of, or well within, a major crisis. Revolutionary anticapitalists should not use this moment to celebrate the suffering of our enemies. Comfortable narratives that mechanically believe that economic crisis leads to the end of capitalism must be dismissed. Soberingly, we should remember that the major economic crisis of the 20th Century resulted in fascism, war and the deaths of millions; and that without the development of collective struggle(s), crisis provides capitalism with an opportunity to restructure and counter-attack. Indeed as 40,000 people starve to death everyday when capitalism is functioning 'well', it's hard to feel joy when it functions 'badly'.

Alain Badiou writes how the current finical crisis is like watching a disaster movie: "Nothing is missing, the spectacle of mounting disaster, the feeling of being suspended from enormous puppet-strings...But hope abides. In the foreground, wild-eyed and focussed, like in a disaster movie, we see the small gang of the powerful – Sarkozy, Paulson, Merkel, Brown, Trichet and others – trying to extinguish the monetary flames, stuffing tens of billions into the central Hole." If the crisis immobilises us, we then call on saviours: the good politicians and financial managers. But can we act for ourselves? What is crucial for Badiou is the development of ideas and collective actions "everything we need to turn away from the film of the crisis and rise up."

One difficulty in responding to the crisis is the fetishised nature of social relations in capitalist society. As Marx argues, in a society where the capitalist mode of production prevails, human creativity is on the whole transformed into commodities. Part of the nature of the commodity is that this creativity appears estranged from us, and embodied in the thing we created. Therefore, whilst global capitalism is produced by the activities of billions of people, it is experienced as if our products are active and we are their objects. This of course reaches a bizarre apex in money and then in financial markets. Money takes on a life of its own. In contemporary global capitalism money appears to be a supernatural force directing human society and passions here and there due to confusing and uncontrollable whims. And of course in a strange way this is true. In capitalism it is the abstract and fetishised forms of value that posses agency and we are their disposed creators: except when people rebel against this situation; something they do all the time.

The Effects of the Crisis.

What will be the effects of the crisis? In the absence of any challenges to capitalism from below, probably horrific. The majority of us (the multitude, the proletariat, etc) are already reduced to a situation where the only thing we have to 'sell' in capitalism is our labour: our creative ability. And I am not just talking about the work we do for pay, but also all the unwaged work we do. As our lives have been reduced into working for capitalism, a crisis in capitalism is for us a trauma. Already we are seeing restricted state spending, job losses and tighter credit: increasing poverty, austerity and difficulties.

What makes this particular crisis so difficult for us is the specific crisis in finance capital. Part of the 'deal' that capital previously offered workers in Australia was that if we 'agreed' (not that

we were ever really asked) to work longer and more intensely then we would be offered increased levels of consumption. (And let's not forget that this high level of consumption was still a very alienating mode of life.) This worked through credit: we were able to borrow to have access to more money than our wages. In past periods of capitalism, to get more money we had to struggle for increased wages, which was often done through collective action. With easy credit we could gain more money as individuals: and our debt compelled us back to work.

Through our superannuation and our investments more and more of us depended either partly or totally on the health of the financial markets. This also works to further bind us to capital. When stocks collapsed, this meant that not only CEOs will have lost their riches, but that millions of workers face massive cuts in their incomes and retirement savings.

We can also speculate about the future. Capitalism will use this crisis to reconstruct itself. We can be quite sure that capitalism will try to drive down the value of labour-power and/or increase the intensity and rate of work, through a range of possible struggles: mass unemployment, longer hours, shorter hours.

We can also speculate that the crisis in capitalism and capital's reaction may increase the hierarchy and conflict within the proletariat. Divisions and hierarchies of difference (race, gender, etc) are a fundamental part of how capitalism works. Capitalist ideologies of racism will most likely be deployed and also there is always the chance that in hard and difficult times, the class will collapse into itself in vortexes of violence and identity.

Political Errors.

There seem to be two errors that the Left might make. The first stems from a failure to understand the nature of neoliberalism. It has been common to typify neoliberalism as the triumph of the 'Market' over the 'State'. The failure of neoliberalism as the hegemonic ideology of capitalism and the return of some kind of state intervention – is then seen as a victory. It is mistakenly seen as if it will mean the taming of capitalism's excess and the rebirth of the great reformist projects of the 20th century.

Capitalism is not the market. Capitalism is a system built on the exploitation and commodification of human creativity, and the entire social order that is necessary to sustain this. Both the state and the market, that is the 'political' organisation of society and 'economic' organisation of society, are just elements of capitalism. Keynesianism (an economic theory that calls on the state to stimulate economic growth through taxtaion and programs of social spending) or neoliberalism are just different ways that the essentially same system operates.

Secondly since economic crisis will most likely see a drop in consumption there is a misanthropic green hope that this will be good news for the earth. This fails to understand that a simple drop in the volume of consumption does not mean that capital's effect on the globe will be lessened. Capitalism is not about simply selling large amounts of things. It is about realising surplus-value. If less actual commodities are being sold capitalism may attempt to increase the amount of surplus value embodied in each commodity: either by driving down the cost of labour or by increasing productivity or both. Either may increase the amount of pollution and ecological damage caused. A drive to cheap labour and low-cost production in the Global South is often associated with cheaper and more polluting technologies, whilst a move to higher productivity can

mean a corresponding leap in the amount of energy, thus probably fossil fuels, used in production.

Our Hope, Our Selves.

We should be careful about predicting apocalypses. We should stay away from the idea that fear can build a revolutionary movement. That said we only have to look across the globe to see many places where life is either unliveable or unbearable already. Yet it is not misery that will abolish capitalism, it is hope despite misery that is the core moment of our freedom.

Our struggle is over how much we can separate ourselves from being reduced to our labour power. I don't believe that this can really be achieved individually: each individual 'escape' from capitalism rests on a world of collective struggle. The challenge is how to transform our relations with each other so we are no longer subordinate to capitalism but rather, develop a politics from below that enables the multitude to live for itself .

I do not believe such a politics can arise simply from the growth of ideological groups, however sparkling their ideology. Rather it is a question of trying to install, or perhaps help grow, politics from existing conflicts in society and solidarities within the class. Whilst 'Left' politics in its organised form is in disarray, practices of cooperation and rebellion remain part of our daily lives and countless people express varying levels of critiques of capitalist society.

We should not try to tail the intervention of the state in the hope of making capitalism nicer, nor can we only sit on the side lines preaching 'Revolution'. Perhaps there is a way of struggling today that accumulates relations of solidarity and opens up the possibility of actually creating communism. This could involve refusal: refuse to except job cuts, or evictions, or price rises. It could also involve creation, the development of popular assemblies as the place of generating our constituent power. And perhaps (and I pose this point especially as a point of debate) we could actually create demands to fight for in a way that escapes the electorialism and statism of reformism: demands for a general social income, or a reduced working week with no reduction in pay, funding for community workshops, etc.

Is it possible to pose concrete demands and fight for them in ways that expand social antagonism, that increase levels of internal class solidarity and intensify our feeling and realisation of our separation for capitalist society? Such demands run the risk of becoming part of a social democratic or liberal attempt to construct a "more just society," when talk of a "more just society" are often scams to make us try to fix a system we need to abolish.

Where to start? What are we already doing, what links of solidarity and self activity however limited already operate? What are possible ways of deepening them, of intensifying antagonism? The very first step seems simple, to agree to assemble, to agree to meet, perhaps to meet in new ways. We might need to lay down the ideological armour, take up the uncertainty of critical thought, lay down the projects of building the organisation, take up extending the self-organisation of the class. From here we can experiment in ways of really amplifying autonomy.

Surveillance & spies:

Undercover police in Melbourne

DumpsteredTwin

On October 16, *The Age* published a series of investigative reports on the state surveillance of Melbourne activist and community groups, with the latest incident occurring for the last two years. It was revealed that under the guidance of Victoria Police's intelligence division, Security Intelligence Group, a man had "infiltrated" obviously open collectives and organisations. This was coupled with an article on a corporate hired undercover conducting surveillance on environmental groups. Not only do these raise questions of civil liberties, but they also beg the question of the functions and historical roles of the organisations/ units that monitor "internal security" and subversives.

The police undercover was known to activists as "Setha Sann". With the skill of walking into a room and saying 'Hi', Setha had "infiltrated" into several lefty groups in Melbourne, including a collective organsing to protest the (cancelled) Adelaide arms fair, enthusiastically manoeuvring himself into the role of taking minutes. As far as Animal Liberation Victoria (ALV) was concerned, this "vegan" 007 had dropped his spy cred in his spritzer - "he had not done his research very well, and had absolutely no thoughts, ideas or opinions about any of the issues ALV represents". ALV also allege ALV that one of their previous "members," "Nicky Jansen," was Setha's immediate predecessor. It is believed that she was also connected with SIG as she had been involved in the exact same groups as Setha, was seen into a police helicopter, and disappeared from the groups once questions were being asked. Nicky also attended a post-G20 debriefing session in Sydney.

The Age also reported that a former police undercover, known as "Memet", was employed by a mining company in order to keep tabs on protestors opposing it. This strongly points to the implicit relationship between the state and capital. It is not as if spying can be found in the classifieds; somehow not only did the mining company hear about Memet's expertise, but they also learnt that his undercover profile was still intact and unknown to the targeted anti-uranium community groups. The company, formerly North Ltd and now taken over by Rio Tinto, had also engaged two other corporate spying companies - one of which was also headed by another former police undercover.

In looking a bit closer into another case that SIG was involved in, perhaps it might give light as to how they function. It has been revealed that SIG was instrumental in the arrests of the Barwon/Benbrika 13 (whose case has been labelled as Australia's biggest terrorism trial so far). One of their undercovers known as SIO 39, operating under the name "Akmet Sonmez", had demonstrated a home-made bomb (acquired through police operation collegues) by exploding it in the middle of the bush. It was the only bomb and weapon (as far as was reported) that the "terrorist" organisation ever had. *The Australian* is notably indecisive on their charges, stating that "in most cases [the submitted surveillance was] open to

interpretation". The actions of SIG in the Barwon/Benbrika 13 case, which were akin to the work of an agent provocateur, signifies that their operational mentality is one of pushing the targeted group a bit further along the path of extremism in order to get "concrete evidence".

It is quite common for the state to see terrorism as synonymous with political dissent. The SIG, its predecessors Special Branch and Operation Intelligence Unit, as well as any "intelligence" organisation the world over has always had a penchant to spy on and maliciously interfere in the Left (look up FBI's COINTELPRO, or even just do a search on "spy activist"). However, "the infiltration of the animal liberation group in order to prevent them from releasing half a dozen chickens from a battery hen farm seem to me to be quite disproportionate," Julian Burnside QC told IPS News. This seems especially true when ALV engages in Open Rescue. Open Rescue involves freeing ill-treated animals conspicuously and informing the police afterwards. In their interview with M*utiny* ALV stated: "We hide neither our faces nor the fact that we have been into properties to expose [legislative] breaches… and to rescue sick and dying animals that have illegally been denied vet care." That raises the question: Why would police infiltrate an organisation that is openly publishing their rescues (including the one with which Setha Sann was a part of), and providing links to video footage of the action?

No charges have been laid so far, so it is still unclear why the activities of such groupings would be under the scrutiny (and resources) of the police, especially in such a round about way of gathering seemingly innocuous information. Dale Mills, in his assessment for *Green Left Weekly* of the APEC excluded list assembled by the police, made the astute observation that "perhaps in an attempt by police analysts to keep themselves in a job, some of the reports use intelligence jargon and cloak-and-dagger melodrama". T*he Age* backs up this sentiment by stating that intelligence reports were "sometimes manipulated by senior police figures to exaggerate the threat they posed". This is also quite common in other parts of this industry - police often lie and exaggerate their Statement of Arrests (documentation on why one had been charged with an offense), to increase the possibility of a conviction.

"Setha Sann" helping rescue chickens from a battery farm. Who says cops never do anything good?

The same is true in the exaggeration of intelligence reports - they hope to avoid being scrutinised as a waste of money. In monetary terms, the danger of these state apparatuses is that they are resource heavy, and require ever-ballooning expenditures. The Hilton bombing in 1978 was alleged to have been organised by ASIO in an attempt to both increase their budget and justify why they needed to exist. Not much has changed since with the Victorian Police budget for 2008-2009 at a record $1.75 billion. Over a third of it ($657 million) will be spent to ensure

that they are “at the forefront of the fight against terrorism and organised crime” (ie ethnically profiling Muslims, non-white immigrants, ethnic youths/”gangs”, and those resisting everyday life under capitalism). Further, $4.8 million of this budget will be spent on specialist equipment including “state-of-the-art covert listening devices to improve intelligence gathering during undercover operations”. This record budget is most likely tied directly with their “performance” with the Barwon/Benbrika 13 case.

It should be mentioned that the police have rely upon “open-source” monitoring when it comes to protest - this has lead them to conduct raids, or issue court orders to requisition whole photographic archives from both sympathetic and unsympathetic sources, on the internet and mainstream media, in order to further their information gathering and lead-ups to arrests. These repercussions have spurred on discussion of issues that affect our communities, by forcing us to address on the one hand the safety and security (and not paranoid security) of our friends and loved-ones when it comes to resistance (arrestable or not); and the other, requiring us to place active engagement in community outreach at the forefront of our resistance, rather than remaining in our personal enclaves. It needs to be about ensuring that the “protestor” is not demonised and scapegoated, and that the issues that people take action about are widely known.

All in all though, perhaps the whole spy fiasco is simply an indicator that we’re doing something right... and that’s captured the curiosity of the state. These incidents have the power to sow suspicion, to sow mistrust, but it is important not to make a witch-hunt out of this. We have to stay focused, to remind ourselves why we are resisting. As ALV said in their interview, “no spy or infiltrator or informer is going to stop us from doing that”.

Do you like the *Mutiny* zine?

We do too! We have our hands full making the zine every month and **we would like your help with distribution** - we can’t possibly cover all the places the zine should go by ourselves.

Is there somewhere you know of that would be a good place to put some zines each month? Great places for people to pick up zines include libraries, bookshops, music stores, cafes, pamphlet racks - and probably more places we haven’t even thought of.

If you can distribute we can send you extra copies.

If you can photocopy some - let us know & we’ll send you a master copy. (Nerds can also print from **www.jura.org.au/mutiny**).

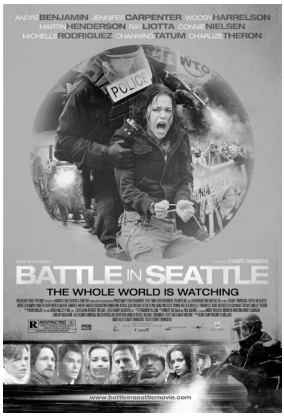
Contact us on **mutineers@graffiti.net**
or **PO box 4, Enmore, NSW, 2042, Australia**

Thanks!

As well as the satisfaction of helping spread radical independent literature, if you can help spread zines in your home-town or suburb, we promise to buy you a beer if we ever meet. (Non-drinkers get their choice of softdrink.)

REVIEWS

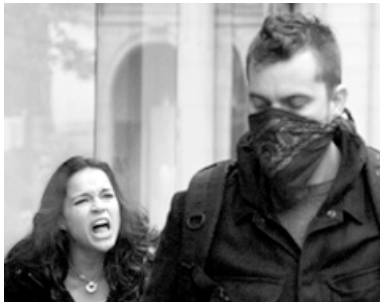
Battle In Seattle (2008)
(Film) Directed by Stuart Townsend



Upon the brink of the new millennium, Seattle became a nest of thorns as people turned out in their thousands to protest against the atrocities committed by the WTO. Despite the attempts of Seattle Police Department to keep the rich in positions of power by hosing, tear gassing and shooting protesters with rubber bullets, the WTO was successfully shut down and didn't reconvene until 2001 in Doha, Quatar.

Almost ten years later, as I watch Stuart Townsend's Battle In Seattle, I feel the weight of something different on my shoulders. Its not just the romanticized tale of Jay valiantly leading the protesters off to "non-violent" battle by "consensus" or that his brother was shot by cops at a forest demo which fuels his desire for a better world. Its not even the cop played by Woody Harrelson, who apologises to Jay after beating the crap out of him during a moment of 'my wife lost our unborn child because she was beaten by a cop and its all your fault you smelly hippie' rage, nor the heart wrenching story of Seattle Mayor Paul Schell torn between his promise to allow both the protests and the WTO to go ahead unhampered. The weight on my face today is something more than just holding witness to another important historical peoples event being lost to the system of corporate profit. It was something I was thinking whilst watching the closing scenes which might be the only part of the film actually worth watching. "Governments would never again be caught off guard" "Two mile exclusion zones would become normal at international meetings such as WTO and G8 summits, further restricting peoples right to dissent" I don't think we have learned as much from this event as the police have.

There are some anarchists portrayed in the film too but after reading this review



I don't expect you'll be rushing off to the movies to watch it any time soon. I suggest using sock puppets to make your own Battle in Seattle at home. If you must see this movie watch it in a room with 20 other anarchists and turn it into a drinking game.

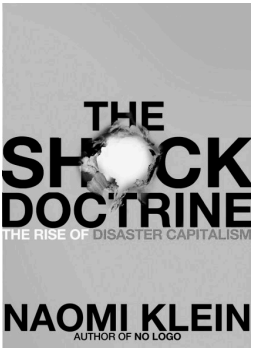
Mambutu

Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism (2007)
(Book) By Naomi Klein

While Naomi Klein's most recent book is two years old, reading it just recently – in this time of economic crisis – was somewhat eye opening. 'Shock Doctrine'

is mostly a book about economics that traces how the absolutist laissez-faire ideologies of Milton Friedman and the Chicago School have pervaded the highest echelons of US government and business and their application has been refined over a number of situations over the last three decades.

The premise that Klein uses is that multiple applications of 'shock tactics/ therapy' through torture (upon an individual's mind and body) and the destruction of war (upon the collective body of the masses and the infrastructure they require to survive) reduce the population's ability to resist the implementation of the economists' dream triumvirate of privatisation, deregulation, and cutbacks to public spending. She starts with the example of the Pinochet coup in Chile where brutal violence and torture enacted upon the people allowed the dictator and his Chicago School trained-cronies to implement free market policies.



The idea is that over the decades, these economic ideologues started to realise that their unpopular policies could only be implemented on the back of a crisis that would render a population incapacitated, or put them into shock, if you will. Klein looks at the example of Russia in the early 90's, where over the corpse of communism a battle was waged over whether to gradually introduce a more social democratic-style capitalism or to go the whole way with free-market extremism. What ended up happening was termed 'economic shock therapy', where an incredibly fast process of privatization, along with massive layoffs, deregulation and cutbacks to crucial social services left most of the population decimated while creating a tiny elite of the super rich.

What really brought the book together and up to date for me, were the chapters on Iraq (and 'the war on terror' in general) and New Orleans. In both of these, Klein manages to produce anecdotes and information I'd never read before despite how much has been written on these topics. To summarise simplistically, she looks at how these two very different crises and the decimated populations they created were capitalised (hah!) upon, turning both regions into testing-labs for free-market experiments and Chicago School ideology.

'Shock Doctrine' is incredibly well researched and easy to read – something I think is quite an accomplishment considering its rather complicated premise (which I haven't given full justice to here). It is not an inaccessible piece of academic wank. Apart from the examples I've already mentioned there's also in depth case-studies from Thatcherite Britain, post-apartheid South Africa, capitalist communism in China, post-tsumani Sri Lanka and more. While all this is exceptionally informative, it's also hella-scary with one failing of the book being that it's attempts to find how this implementation of right-wing capitalism can be resisted seeming like an after-thought and not all that satisfactory.

SourDough

Dumpstered Twin follows a trail of intrigue to uncover the undercovers infiltrating political groups.

A report from Reclaim the Night that poses some thoughts on how it could involve a bit more reclamation.

Can economic crisis crack capitalism? Or will it just be us forced to swallow more bitter medicine? Grumpy Cat paws through the wreckage.

A report on the ongoing injustice in Queensland as Lex Wotton gets sentenced.

Reviews of *Battle in Seattle* (the movie) and *Shock Doctrine* by Naomi Klein.